

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 471

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Larry (Don) Corn, Sr. of Nashville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Larry (Don) Corn, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, a former labor leader and retired court officer for General Sessions Court, Larry Corn was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Winchester, Tennessee, Mr. Corn was the son of Marvin Burnette Corn and Annie Lee Burt Corn and youngest brother of Bobby Corn, Gilbert Corn, and Jane Corn Tatum; and

WHEREAS, Larry Corn grew up in southwest Nashville, graduating from West End High School in 1956, and earned Nashville Interscholastic League (NIL) honors for his prowess on the football field; and

WHEREAS, an enterprising young man, Mr. Corn worked as a copy boy for the *Nashville Tennessean* during his high school years and was given a job as a sports reporter upon graduation by legendary Sports Editor Raymond Johnson; and

WHEREAS, proud to serve his country, Larry Corn rendered sterling service as a member of the Tennessee Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force Reserve during the late 1950s and early 1960s; and

WHEREAS, in 1957, Mr. Corn went to work for the new Ford Glass Plant in Nashville and joined the United Auto Workers (UAW), becoming the first President of UAW Local 737 to ever be re-elected to that position; and

WHEREAS, highly respected and greatly admired by his peers, Larry Corn served as President of UAW Local 737 for five terms before he was promoted to the UAW International

Union to represent workers in Tennessee where he specialized in wrongful discharge cases; and

WHEREAS, retiring from the UAW International in 1989, Mr. Corn went to work as a Court Officer for the Honorable William E. (Bill) Higgins, General Sessions Court Judge, and continued in that position until his retirement in 2002. During his tenure as a court officer, he organized the first and only court officers union in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Larry Corn returned to organized labor in 2002 and was elected Chairman of the UAW Local 737 Retiree's Chapter, one of the largest in the South; and

WHEREAS, an eloquent, passionate voice of the working men and women, bringing their issues to the forefront, Larry Corn wrote a number of labor-related editorials for both local and national publications in addition to letters to the editor of *The Tennessean*, many of which were three-star award winners; and

WHEREAS, first and always a staunch Democrat, he took great pride in placing a sign in his yard stating DEMOCRAT and served on the Davidson County Democratic Executive Committee for several terms, playing a vital role in a number of national activities and election projects; and

WHEREAS, a truly remarkable gentleman who was known for his loyalty and compassion, Mr. Corn volunteered in the emergency room at St. Thomas Hospital and was a member of Bellevue Masonic Lodge No. 519 and Al Menah Temple; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to God and his church, Mr. Corn and his wife, Jobie Starnes Corn, were active members of Bellevue United Methodist Church where he served on the Stewardship Committee and together they headed up the Bellevue Food Bank for ten years; and

WHEREAS, a loving husband and father, Larry Corn is survived by his wife of fifty-five years, Jobie Starnes Corn; four children, Donna Corn Crumley (Rick), Larry Don Corn, Jr., James Leslie Corn (Karen), and Anita Jane Corn Hicks (Jim); and eight grandchildren: Matthew, Nathan, Elena, Leslie, Logan, Lizzi, Kyle, and Josh; and

WHEREAS, Larry Corn, Sr. leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Larry (Don) Corn, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Corn.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.